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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

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COUNTRY Indonesia

DATE DISTR. 30 Apr. 1951

SUBJECT Move to Oust Ichsan as Secretary General of the Foreign Affairs Ministry

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

[redacted]

1. A concerted effort is underway in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to oust Ichsan from the post of Secretary General. This action is led by Dr. Darmasetiawan, an adviser to the Foreign Ministry, and supported by Hadji Agus Salim and Achmad Subardjo, all of whom have considerable influence in this ministry.

2. Darmasetiawan, Salim, and Subardjo, following the lead set by Nehru, advocate a neutral independent foreign policy for Indonesia. They are critical of American foreign policy, having expressed Indonesia's policy as one of non-alignment with the Western powers. Salim has been the most outspoken critic of United States policy. Although he does not officially represent the views of the Foreign Ministry, Salim's statements exert some influence on public opinion because of his position as elder statesman. Darmasetiawan, personally very ambitious, allegedly is trying to dominate and control the activities of the Foreign Ministry. This may be the reason he wants to get rid of Ichsan. Subardjo is known to be left-wing politically.

3. Many of the Ministry's employees, who oppose Ichsan's removal, plan to resign from their present jobs if Darmasetiawan's maneuver is successful. Ichsan is considered a reasonably efficient and impartial official.*

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* [redacted] Comment. [redacted] 13 October 1950, reported that Ichsan probably would be appointed Ambassador to Communist China. Ichsan has a Master of Laws degree and is considered an expert on Asiatic Affairs.

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